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Probleme Economice.

DECREASED NORMS FOR CONSUMPTION OF RAW MATERIALS IN RUMANIA

Raducan Cioroiu

The Rumanian People's Republic set up 67 norms for the consumption of raw materials in its 1950 technical plan. The 1951 technical plan established 155 raw materials norms and assigned 118 norms to ministries for further study. As a result, 163 norms were set up in 1952, and 727 norms were assigned to ministries for study. These norms covered the use of raw material per unit of production in the metallurgical, construction, textile, leather, chemical, fuel, lubricants, and food industries, and in agriculture.

An analysis of achievements during the first quarter 1952 reveals that savings of up to 6 percent more than planned were made in the production of many items. However, production of other items required more materials and power than planned. Thus, for example, electric power consumption in the production of steel exceeded norms 25-53 percent, the norm for mercury consumption in the production of caustic soda in enterprises of the Ministry of Chemical Industries was exceeded 85 percent, and 53 percent more lubricants than planned were required per kilowatt-hour at electric power enterprises.

The Rumanian Workers Party and the government assigned norms to the ministries and state economic organizations. These in turn divide norms by enterprises. The ministries and state economic organizations then sent the norms, broken down by individual components, to the State Supply Committee before the 20 April 1952 due date. They included, together with the norm figures, all technical and organizational data required for the fulfillment of these norms. This material constituted the draft norm.

These draft norm figures, together with accompanying data, constituted proposals for the assignment of raw materials to ministries and enterprises. Most of these proposals contained extensive documentation, but this material

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was not always wisely outlined and based on fact. Calculations which formed the basis of these proposals were founded on statistical data taken from industrial centers which tended to recommend more raw materials and hence greater norms than the actual situation warranted. For example, at Petresti the consumption of logs for the production of cellulose paste was 2.5 cubic meters of logs per ton. Instead of decreasing the amount of logs used, an increased norm of 2.8 cubic meters of logs per ton was recommended.

The fight for the establishment of new progressive consumption norms constitutes one of the main duties laid out by the party and the government. New progressive norms will reduce consumption of raw materials per unit of production, save an increasingly larger amount of materials, and lead to a better organization of supply. Therefore, the number of norms for the use of raw materials for 1953 must be considerably larger than the 1952 figure.

Technical directorates of economic ministries, therefore, must analyze very carefully the proposals for norms submitted by enterprises in 1953. Great savings must be effected. These proposals will then be submitted for government approval. This will be only the beginning. Labor norms must then be established, labor collectives must be formed, and technicians and engineers must be mustered to apply these norms.



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